

## NEW COMBINATIONS IN *ERICAMERIA* (COMPOSITAE: ASTEREEAE)

Guy L. Nesom

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713 USA

### ABSTRACT

Two new combinations in *Ericameria* are proposed: *E. palmeri* var. *pachylepis* and *E. parishii* var. *peninsularis*.

KEY WORDS: *Ericameria*, *Haplopappus*, Asteraceae, México, systematics.

In the preparation of a taxonomic treatment of the Mexican species of *Ericameria*, two new combinations are necessary.

*Ericameria palmeri* (A. Gray) H.M. Hall var. *pachylepis* (H.M. Hall) Nesom, comb. nov. Based on *Haplopappus palmeri* subsp. *pachylepis* H.M. Hall, Carnegie Inst. Washington Publ. No. 389:267. 1928. *Haplopappus palmeri* var. *pachylepis* (H.M. Hall) Munz, Man S. Calif. 522. 1935.

*Ericameria palmeri* is recognized by its strictly erect stems and ovate-cylindric capitulescences with radiate heads. Var. *pachylepis*, the northern variant of the species, which ranges from Riverside County, California, northward to Ventura County, differs from var. *palmeri* primarily in its larger leaves (5-16 mm vs 10-40 mm long) and the broader, more definite gland on the apical half of the phyllaries. Differences noted by Munz (1974) in the involucre height and number of ray and disc flowers separate the two taxa inconsistently.

*Ericameria parishii* (E. Greene) H.M. Hall var. *peninsularis* (R. Moran) Nesom, comb. nov. Based on *Haplopappus arborescens* subsp. *peninsularis* R. Moran, Trans. San Diego Soc. Nat. Hist. 15:152. 1969.

The three taxa of the *Ericameria arborescens* (A. Gray) H.M. Hall group occupy three separate geographic zones. Moran (1969) recognized each of the three as a subspecies of *E. arborescens* (subsp. *arborescens*, subsp. *parishii* (E. Greene) R. Moran and subsp. *peninsularis* R. Moran), but all other studies of the California flora have maintained *E. arborescens* and *E. parishii* as distinct species. *Ericameria arborescens*, the northernmost form, apparently does not

intergrade morphologically with *E. parishii*, which is restricted to southern California, where their ranges meet in southern California.

On the other hand, *Ericameria parishii* var. *parishii* and var. *peninsularis*, which is endemic to Baja California Norte, are similar in all respects except leaf shape, and according to Moran (1969), they intergrade in this character. "Since some specimens are virtually identical, [var. *peninsularis*] can scarcely be treated as a species separate from [*E.*] *parishii*" (Moran 1969, p. 154). Hall's concept of *E. parishii* (1928) also included var. *peninsularis*, because he cited as *E. parishii* a collection from Sierra San Pedro Martir (*Robertson 48*, UC) that was included by Moran as var. *peninsularis*. Moran's solution in identifying all three taxa as subspecies of one species emphasized their close relationship but disregarded the clear discontinuity between *E. arborescens* and *E. parishii* as well as the greater similarity between var. *parishii* and var. *peninsularis*. In my view, these taxa are best identified by the following synoptic key.

1. Heads on ultimate peduncles (4-) 7-15 mm long, in loose cymes; disc flowers 18-25 per head, prominently hairy on the tube and lower throat ..... *E. arborescens*
1. Heads on ultimate peduncles 0-5 mm long, in compact cymes; disc flowers 8-18 per head, glabrate to very sparsely papillate or minutely hairy on the tube ..... (2)
  2. Leaves linear-oblongate to linear, 1.5-2.0 (-3.5) mm wide ..... *E. parishii* var. *peninsularis*
  2. Leaves narrowly elliptic to elliptic-oblongate, 3-10 mm wide ..... *E. parishii* var. *parishii*

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